

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES (DSHS)
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington**

To: Snohomish County Providers
Skagit County Providers
Island County Providers
King County Providers
Whatcom County Providers
Managed Care Plans

**Memorandum No. 04-71 MAA
Issued: October 8, 2004**

For further information, see:
<http://maa.dshs.wa.gov/mip>

From: Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary
Medical Assistance Administration (MAA)

Kathy Leitch, Assistant Secretary
Aging & Disability Services Administration (ADSA)

Tim Brown, Assistant Secretary
Health & Rehabilitation Services Administration (HRSA)

Subject: Washington Medicaid Integration Partnership (WMIP) Project: Update

Effective January 1, 2005, DSHS will enroll up to 6,000 SSI and SSI-related clients in Snohomish County in a voluntary managed care project. DSHS previously notified providers about WMIP under Numbered Memorandum 04-56 MAA. This memorandum informs providers about changes to the WMIP project and provides information about training opportunities.

What is the Washington Medicaid Integration Partnership (WMIP)?

DSHS is working with Molina Healthcare of Washington, Inc. (Molina) to pilot a managed care project in Snohomish County called WMIP that will begin January 1, 2005. Molina will provide medical and chemical dependency services through Molina's provider network. The focus of this new project is to make available a care coordination model - a team of care coordinators who will work with clients to identify health issues early, coordinate services, and assist clients in following through with treatment.

Coordination of these services will help:

- Prevent unnecessary hospitalizations;
- Postpone placements in nursing homes;
- Eliminate duplicate prescriptions; and
- Prevent the use of the emergency room for conditions that are more appropriate for physician office visits.



Note: For details about the proposed covered services under the WMIP project, please see the draft WMIP contract on the WMIP website at <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov/mip>. This contract has not been finalized or signed.

Will Long-Term Care and Mental Health Services be added to this project?

Yes. DSHS decided to extend the time frame for adding mental health and long term care services to the WMIP project. DSHS has also decided to include inpatient mental health treatment as part of the covered services. These services will not be added until Molina has an approved network of care providers in place to effectively provide them. Clients must continue to access these services in the current manner until the services are added to the WMIP project. DSHS will issue further numbered memoranda regarding the additions of these services to the WMIP project.

Which clients are eligible for enrollment and participation in the WMIP project?

Current Washington State legislation authorizes DSHS to enroll up to 6,000 Medicaid clients who receive benefits under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program or SSI-related programs (clients who are aged, blind, and disabled) and reside in Snohomish County. All clients will have the opportunity to opt out prior to being enrolled. All 6,000 clients will receive information in early November about their choices.

Certain clients in the SSI or SSI-related medical programs will automatically be enrolled in the WMIP project; however, since the project is voluntary, enrolled clients may notify DSHS at any time if they do not wish to participate.

Clients on the SSI or SSI-related programs in the following categories will **not** be enrolled in WMIP unless the client specifically requests to participate:

- Clients who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid (“dual eligibles”)
- Clients who are American Indians or Alaska Natives

Enrollment in WMIP will be indicated with the acronym “**MINT**” (**M**olina **I**ntegrated) in the “HMO” column on the Medical ID Card. If the column is blank, the client is fee-for-service for the month listed on the Medical ID Card.

Which clients are not eligible to participate in the WMIP project?

The WMIP project does not include clients who are:

- Younger than age 21;
- Healthy Options enrollees; or
- Receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).

Is training available for the WMIP project?

Yes! Training is available.

Online Training:

Check the WMIP website at <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov/mip> for online training, project updates, covered services, and other information.

Group Training Sessions:

Molina and DSHS are partnering to provide several training sessions with providers and stakeholders in Snohomish County during the 3rd and 4th weeks in October. If you would like to attend one of these sessions, please contact Molina at 1-800-869-7175 and ask for Marilyn at extension 4107. If you would like to see the training schedule, select the *WMIP Calendar* link on the WMIP website <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov/mip>.

Individual Training Sessions:

DSHS and Molina are in the process of scheduling limited individual training with various provider and stakeholder groups. Please contact Brett Lawton at (360)725-1593 or by email at lawtobl@dshs.wa.gov if you would like to schedule an individual training session.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

If you have questions, you may contact

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This memorandum updates numbered memo 04-56 MAA, published July 15, 2004. To obtain MAA's numbered memoranda and billing instructions, visit MAA's website at <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov> (select the *Billing Instructions/Numbered Memoranda* link).

